

The Thrill of the Grill!

By John Offerdahl (a.k.a. The Grid Iron Griller)

To me, nothing brings back more vivid memories of my childhood in rural Wisconsin than those thrilling, "grilling days of summer." Perhaps it's the aroma of hotdogs earning their juicy stripes. Or the site of flames shooting up around a plump, fatty burger. Or the sounds a thick steak makes when it hits a red, hot grill. Perhaps it's all those things...and more.

I remember Mom and my four older sisters preparing lemonade, potato salad and other side dishes while I stood proudly next to Dad at the grill, breathing in the sizzling goodness of the moment... and learning the art of it all.



Offerdahls at the grill

Even during my college football years and my pro career with the Dolphins, that familiar smell of tailgate grills outside the stadium would take me back to those backyard family barbeques in

Wisconsin.

Was it those memories that inspired me to add a grill inside my new Offerdahl's Café restaurants? Absolutely. I still bake the freshest bagels and prepare the best-tasting sandwiches, salads and soups in town. But I feel that nothing beats the flavor of marinated steak, chicken or salmon made-to-order on a grill and nestled atop your choice of pasta, rice or salad.



What's on my plate for the next six months? I thought you'd never ask!

During football season, I'll be bringing you monthly articles that I hope will reignite your enthusiasm for grilling. Although I don't claim to be a famous chef-just a guy who loves to grill-I have asked my wife, Lynn, to share some of her tastiest culinary creations. Together, we'll be bringing you tips on keeping your meals simple so they're easy to prepare at your next tailgate or backyard get-together.

I am sure that somewhere between the hotdogs and steak there will be a young, boy standing next to his Mom or Dad at the grill, breathing in the delicious memories of childhood.

What's on your plate today?

PATTIE BENDIT - Our Special Angel!

By Jon Frangipane

Days, months and years go by so fast that it's so easy to let things slip by. If there were a penalty for such behavior, I should be locked up for life!

About five years ago, a very attractive lady approached me and asked if I ever needed a start getting to know the community better, or find customers, or submit articles, or find human interest stories, that she would be very happy to help me anyway she could. I did not live in Lighthouse Point, so this was like an angel being sent from heaven. This lady did not ask for compensation, but wanted to do this out of the goodness of her heart. *Where did this lady come from?* I wondered.

I can now truthfully admit, that the *Lighthouse Point Magazine* would not have grown in size, stature and popularity without Pattie Bendit. I say this unequivocally and with out a single doubt that there are few people on earth so giving.

She may be quite annoyed at me for writing this article,



Pattie Bendit

but I have witnessed her generosity on many occasions with her willingness to give to others, and I don't want it to go unnoticed, for it has for too long.

In addition to the many advertisers Pattie has brought to the magazine, she has also been instrumental in connecting me with people such as T.V. personality, Mel Taylor, football great, John Offerdahl, Channel 10 weatherman Lonnie Quinn, politicians, city and school officials, organizing our special LHP Chefs feature, creating new projects for the magazine — you name it, Pattie has been there for me.

So you see, this special tribute is long overdue, and if I have not made it clear to my readers in the past that she is a extraordinary and special human being, I want to state my case for posterity.

So, my friends, when you see Pattie's pretty, smiling face, please wave and if you have a moment, say hello and maybe even thank her for bringing such joy to so many people.

